



## Press Release

30<sup>th</sup> September 2010

### **Uncertain times ahead for the Old Duchy Palace**

The Prince's Regeneration Trust and the Cornwall Buildings Preservation Trust have received the surprise news that their application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for funding towards the capital restoration costs for the Old Duchy Palace has been turned down. The project proposals were to open up the main Convocation Hall for event and community use ensuring that maximum public access and benefit could be achieved for the local community.

"We were shocked and disappointed to hear the decision" says Simon Thorpe Chair of the Cornwall Buildings Preservation Trust. "We had high hopes that our application would be successful as the Old Duchy Palace is Grade 1 Listed and an extremely important secular building in Cornwall. Moreover the level of public benefit was considerable and we had lined up training and education activities to involve as many people as possible in the project. This leaves us in uncertain times and will now need to re-group to work out what other options are open to us".

Both Trusts remain determined to secure a viable future for the Old Duchy Palace and will work hard over the next few months to review the proposals and sources of funding to ensure that the building is refurbished. Once a preferred use has been agreed a planning and listed building consent application will be submitted for any works that need to be undertaken.

A local fundraising campaign to raise funds to help restore the building has been undertaken and any readers who are interested in hearing more details should visit the Big Give website where donations can be made on line.



ENDS

### The Prince's Regeneration Trust

The Prince's Regeneration Trust is one of The Prince's Charities and has HRH The Prince of Wales as its President. There are 20 charities in the group, which is the largest multi-cause charitable enterprise in the UK.

The Prince's Regeneration Trust is a separate charity from The Prince's Trust.

The Prince's Regeneration Trust is acknowledged as the UK's leading heritage regeneration specialist, delivering successful projects to communities across the UK.

The Trust works to help underused or redundant historic buildings perform a new function, unlocking a regeneration of the wider community, particularly in areas of social or economic deprivation.

The Trust works in partnership with communities, developers, local authorities and other public bodies throughout the UK. Redundant buildings are given a viable, new function which keeps them at the heart of their communities and assists with the wider economic regeneration of their local area. The Trust encourages sharing learning and experience through its projects.

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